

and experience in the Pacific with those nations that have suffered such devastating losses from the Indian Ocean tsunami. With the technology we have, no family of nations need suffer in the future from such widespread devastation without warning and public awareness of what tsunamis are, what they can do, and how to react and plan for them. Hawaii and the Pacific has been well-prepared for tsunamis through 20 years of State and federal efforts through the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program, which is a NOAA Federal-State partnership with or Hawaii Civil Defense program. This program has enhanced Hawaii's tsunami mitigation and preparedness programs. Sharing our experience, our successes, and our learning curves is a very important part of assistance in the aftermath of the tsunami.

I urge support for this bill and commend my colleagues on the Commerce Committee, and its staff, for their foresight in addressing this issue and working with the executive branch to review and comment on this bill.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### JUDGE WILLIAM AUGUSTUS BOOTLE

• Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and legacy of U.S. District Judge William Augustus Bootle. Judge Bootle passed away yesterday at his home in Macon at the age of 102.

Judge Bootle and I became friends as I began my law practice 36 years ago. His leadership and integrity have had a great impact on my role as a public servant. From our first meeting until now, Judge Bootle and I have maintained a close working relationship and have had many opportunities to interact over the years.

A stalwart of our country's judicial system, Judge Bootle will be remembered for his unwavering commitment to doing what's right on behalf of all Americans, having led our country through some of the most difficult decisions in our Nation's history. Georgians will remember him for being fair and judicious in his verdicts and for being the type of judge before which all lawyers like to practice.

He showed an exemplary sort of courage in the fight to desegregate the South and helped resolve many hard fought battles respective to the integration of Georgia's education systems. To this end, Judge Bootle was responsible for the admittance of the first black students in the University of Georgia.

I would like to take this opportunity to quote from a book written by Frederick Allen which is entitled "Atlanta Rising." This book deals with a lot of history which took place in the At-

lanta area during the years of the civil rights movement. Two black applicants who were denied admittance to the University of Georgia filed suit in the middle district of Georgia, and quoting from this book, I read as follows:

Two black applicants, Charlayne Hunter and Hamilton Holmes, went to the court attacking the welter of excuses University of Georgia officials had concocted to keep them out. The two made a convincing case that the only reason they had been denied admission was segregation, pure and simple. In a ruling issued late on the afternoon of Friday, January 6, 1961, Judge William A. Bootle ordered Hunter and Holmes admitted to the school, not in six months or a year, but bright and early the next Monday morning.

In the 1960s in Georgia, that took great judicial integrity.

In the 105th Congress, my good friend Senator Paul Coverdell and I successfully led the charge to designate the Federal building and U.S. courthouse in Macon, GA, as the "William Augustus Bootle Federal Building and United States Courthouse" in the honor of his steadfast service to the people of Georgia.

The legacy of Judge Bootle will continue to impact countless individuals across our great Nation and I know he will be sorely missed—but honored in high regard by future generations. My wife Julianne and I are proud to have counted Judge Bootle a close friend, and extend our deepest condolences and prayers to his family and loved ones. •

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:48 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 16. Concurrent resolution congratulating the people of Ukraine for conducting a democratic, transparent, and fair runoff presidential election on December 26, 2004, and congratulating Viktor Yushchenko on his election as President of Ukraine and his commitment to democracy and reform.

H. Con. Res. 20. Concurrent resolution providing for a joint session of Congress to receive a message from the President.

H. Con. Res. 21. Concurrent resolution providing for an adjournment or recess of the two Houses.

The message further announced that pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1024(a), and the order of the House of January 4, 2005, the Speaker appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the Joint Economic Committee: Mr. SAXTON of New Jersey.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 703(c) of the Public Interest Declassification Act of 2000 (50 U.S.C. 435 note), the Minority Leader appoints the following named individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Public Interest Declassification Board for an initial 2-year term: Mr. David Skaggs of Colorado.

At 4:39 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hayes, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 54. An act to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide reasonable standards for congressional gold medals, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 54. An act to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide reasonable standards for congressional gold medals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-228. A communication from the Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to competitive sourcing initiatives; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-229. A communication from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Federal Trade Commission Report under the FAIR Act; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-230. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Regulatory Status of National Transportation Safety Board Recommendations on 15-Passenger Van Safety, Medical Certification for Commercial Driver Licenses and Highway/Railroad Grade Crossing Safety to the Department of Transportation for the year ending December 6, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-231. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Report on the State Barriers to Adopting and Implementing Programs Using Roadside Communications Systems for Alerts Regarding Recovery of Abducted Children; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-232. A communication from the Assistant Administrator, Office of Legislative Affairs, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Fiscal Year 2004 Competitive Sourcing Activities Summary of Completed Competitions, the Fiscal Year 2004 Competitive Sourcing Activities Summary of Announced Competitions, and the Fiscal Year 2003 Competitive Sourcing Activities Summary Savings and Performance Update; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-233. A communication from the Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of commercial activities under the FAIR Act; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-234. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Report on Specialized